OCTOBER 1951

CPAC Newsletter

Metropolitan Planning under Discussion

The reasons for more persons becoming concerned about what is going on in the metropolitan city areas on this continent are numerous. An example of what some of the persons conversant with this problem are thinking is to be found in a booklet published by the Council for Planning Action, Boston.

There is, as we might expect, a fundamental agreement among the contributors to this symposium that any satisfactory solution will depend largely on setting up a metropolitan government able to plan for land use allocation in the whole area.

But rather than attempt to gather together what has been said in this booklet we will let the contributors speak for themselves — Catherine Bauer, noted author and lecturer says: "The primary characteristic of American cities has been that they are not static . . . It's this very mobility that not only causes many of our worst civic problems, but at the same time creates ever new opportunities . . . Neither the city centre, the suburbs, nor outlying areas can be 'saved' without some defensible hypothesis about the dynamics of decentralization . . . Real metropolitan planning . . . implies the power, not merely to 'unify' certain public services, but to determine whether in the future central areas should have more or less population and industry, where 'overspill' might go, whether this suburb should be developed . . . and that one prevented from expanding."

Charles Abrams, a lawyer, warns that "a compromise will have to be made . . . between the planners and the people who will tolerate imperfection if it means greater individual choice . . . Building canned cities complete to the last coat of paint is not my ideal . . . Today the emphasis is on stock neighbourhoods which utterly fail to consider the demands of the human being and his peculiarities . . . Let the planner first explore the human animal, before he prefabricates his environment."

Guy Greer: "American cities simply must get hold of . . . a great deal more money . . . Suppose the Federal Government authorized tax returns for federal, state and local taxes . . . the taxpayer will know what government is costing him . . . Every resident of a city would deduct from his local income tax a substantial portion of the property tax . . . there would be a powerful pressure on all 'daylight citizens' to achieve the status of residents (which) plus education should provide motivation for metropolitan government . . . We must provide economic incentives to help push consolidation of metropolitan areas . . . We must also instal a tax system . . . specifically designed to make it advantageous for all the communities in a metropolitan area to join together."

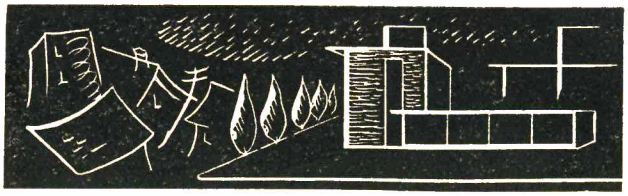
John T. Howard (Cleveland Planning Commission): "The only kind of plan which gives any meaning to all other kinds is the plan for the allocation of land uses and the distribution and densities of population. The only tools we have in this country to regulate those features . . . are zoning and subdivision control; and there has been no move to take any part of these powers from the individual municipalities and give them to the metropolitan agency . . . It's a bit like expecting to design a house effectively when each room is in independent hands . . . The machinery for metropolitan political control of land uses is the one thing we haven't developed."

It should be apparent that there is no ready formula on hand for solving the problems posed by metropolitan evolution as we know it. Yet the fact that there is no readily available solution is no reason either for inaction or for the kind of compromise that merely postpones the day of reckoning. What is needed is some hard thinking, the courage to act, and, paradoxical as it may sound, the patience to wait.

Note: The booklet — CPA Symposium 2, Metropolitan Planning, is available from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, Mass., for 50c.

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, OTTAWA

Secretary-Treasurer's Report 1950-51



The year that has passed since our Fourth Annual General Meeting in Ottawa has been a year of marked changes both outside the Association and within it. The nations are still at odds; but we have learned to regard the solution as requiring decades rather than days. (For instance, Canadian housing required for national preparedness is to be the responsibility of established agencies, not the special charge of quickly contrived ones.) The new attitude, if no more cheerful, is at least more consonant with realities; it is therefore an attitude that permits planning methods to work.

The Canadian planning professionals, especially those in public employment, have grown steadily in numbers during the year—with the new planning schools making their contributions all across the country. The Town Planning Institute of Canada is being re-established to comprise those who are professionally qualified and active in the field. We may look forward to returning some of our debt to those Institute officers who took a large part in establishing CPAC five years ago.

The organization of the Association, both in the field and in the central office, has been buttressed and expanded in like measure. There are Divisions in being in seven of the ten provinces, so that it is now possible for nine out of every ten Canadians to join in planning action provincially through CPAC. There has been a substantial increase in the rate of flow of the Association's resources to the Divisional centres; this has made possible the recruitment of staff in seven cities. Fourteen persons are now on full-time or part-time appointments with the Association; half of them are new to our ranks within the past year. Under the new constitution, the Council which will take office at the present Meeting will add strength to the links between the Members in the field and their servants in the central office.

The year has again been marked by hard working Conferences from Saint John on the Atlantic to Vancouver on the Pacific. Regular Branch meetings range from small fortnightly discussion groups in Quebec and Ottawa, or occasional joint meetings with other societies in Toronto, to well attended lectures by visiting authorities on the west coast. There have been dozens of representations made to governments at all levels: on the basic planning legislation, on the strengthening of governmental planning machinery, on the implementation of housing provisions, on the conservation of natural resources and on taxation problems. Each of the fully organized Divisions has served its Members with special topical publications throughout the year. Displays on the National Capital Plan, on residential site layout and on housing in Britain have been promoted by Member groups from coast to coast. The Manitoba Division by means of 'Community Planning Week' and the Ontario Division by means of a questionnaire, have collected much useful information as to the matters that perplex local authorities eager to improve their areas. The Association has added in the past year to the long list of planning amendments, enforcements and appointments which took place following our urging.

Your Council and its Executive Committee have held meetings approximately bi-monthly; the record of their deliberations has been communicated to Divisional officers, and the results are reflected throughout the activities and publications of the Association.

In addition to the regular issues of the *Newsletter*, *Les Nouvelles* and COMMUNITY PLANNING REVIEW, several special publications have been issued to all Members from the national office and more are in preparation. The national office has also added half a dozen items to its stock of planning booklets prepared by others, and made available to our Members at the cost of production. The information program of the Association has been the subject of comment by the Royal Commission on the National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences; and individual items have been commended by the advertising industry and by a variety of newspapers and periodicals.

The membership was represented at the Council table of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning by the Secretary Treasurer. The same assignment afforded the opportunity to study other planning and allied organizations, and the television and display techniques of which they make use. It is hoped that the many connections so established can be turned to maximum account for the benefit of the work of the Association.

It continues to be possible for the Members of the Association to secure wider discussion of planning topics through the pages of daily and weekly newspapers, popular magazines, and professional and trade journals.

The relocation of the national office, the necessity to induct some new staff, and conditions outside the Association have conspired to halt our growth in membership and activities during the past year. This is reflected in the substantial surplus that appears in the audited financial statement below. (The complete Report of the Auditors can be examined at the Annual General Meeting or in the national office at any time thereafter.)

Each change that has taken place this year has enlarged the power of the Association to do its work in the year ahead. This meeting is the opportunity to lay out that work; and my colleagues who have served so faithfully in the past join me in looking forward to your new assignments.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30th, 1951

Revenues		
Grants from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	$54,084.50	
Membership Fees collected from members per Schedule I*	3,419.60	
Grants from Provincial Governments and Others, per Schedule I*	2,988.90	
Miscellaneous	948.22	
	$61,441.22	
Less: Portion of Revenues credited to Provincial Divisions	*$15,547.80*	$45,893.42
Deduct: Expenditures		
Annual Conference Expenses	$ 1,343.61	
Audit Fee and Expenses	713.21	
Bank Charges	64.45	
Freight, Telephone, Telegraph and Teletype	479.84	
Membership in other organizations	185.38	
Office supplies	392.71	
Postage and Excise	819.91	
Printed Matter and Display	13,701.86	
Purchase and Lease of Films	76.68	
Salaries and Unemployment Insurance as charged by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	13,762.86	
Subscriptions to Newspapers	89.08	
Sundry Expenses	178.00	
Travelling Expenses	2,557.15	
Advertising	55.00	
Secretaries' Conference	727.53	
Expense allotment *re* meeting of Council of Federation	1,200.00	
Alterations to leased premises	281.88	
Office Equipment	393.13	
		37,022.28
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures, transferred to Statement of Surplus		$ 8,871.14

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30th, 1951

Balance as at June 30th, 1950			$ 9,742.11
Add: Excess of Revenues over Expenditures for the year, as shown on Statement of Revenues and Expenditures			8,871.14
Balance as at June 30th, 1951			$18,613.25
Represented by the following:—			
Cash in Bank of Montreal		$ 5,580.55	
Grants Receivable from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation		14,669.78	
		$20,250.33	
Less: Sundry Accounts Payable	*$ 412.18*		
Fees and Grants for the period April 1st to June 30th, 1951 refundable to Divisions per Schedule II*	*1,224.90*	*1,637.08*	18,613.25

*These Schedules are available for examination at the Annual General Meeting or in the National Office at any time thereafter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALAN H. ARMSTRONG

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Toronto, October 20

The fifth annual general meeting of the Community Planning Association of Canada will be held in Toronto on October 20th at the *Purdy Auditorium, Queen St. E. at 11:45 a.m.* Reports will be presented and the election of the 1951-52 Council will take place. The meeting is being held in conjunction with the Ontario Planning Conference. Please make your own hotel reservations. List available from Ontario Secretary.

Ontario Planning Conference

Toronto, October 19-20
Purdy Auditorium, 53 Queen St. East

A conference on the theme "Planning problems of larger urban areas". For further information, inquire of

Secretary, Ontario Division CPAC,
1175 Bay Street,
Toronto, Ontario.

British Columbia Regional Conferences

Penticton, October 24 — ***The Legion Building***

Kamloops, October 26 — ***Blue Room Hotel***

The B.C. Division of CPAC has decided to sponsor two conferences in smaller centres this year. For further information inquire of

Secretary, B.C. Division CPAC,
1205—736 Granville St.,
Vancouver, B.C.

Report of the Nominating Committee

In accordance with article VI of the by-laws of the Association, the following have been named by Divisions to the National Council of the Association :

Nova Scotia	W. E. Tibbs, Lloyd Shaw
Quebec	C. Campeau, André Duval
Ontario	P. A. Deacon, R. T. Donald
Manitoba	C. L. Fisher, Eric Thrift
Alberta	G. M. Brown, N. B. Dant
British Columbia	H. V. Jackson, L. R. Munroe

A representative will also be named by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The following have agreed to stand for election to the Council for the period October 1951 to October 1952:
Sir Brian Dunfield, St. John's, Newfoundland
Dr. Emile Nadeau, Quebec, P.Q.
George Mooney, Montreal, P.Q.
John M. Kitchen, Ottawa, Ontario
W. Harold Clark, Toronto, Ontario
Dr. Leonard Marsh, Vancouver, B.C.

Nominations may also be made at the Annual General Meeting by any two Members in good standing.

Respectfully submitted,
P. Alan Deacon,
Convenor of the Nominating Committee.

Planning Films

Please inquire at your local Film library for the following films or write directly to the Canadian Film Institute, 172 Wellington, St., Ottawa.

Arteries of the City: *Encyclopaedia Britannica Films. 11 mins. B & W (1941)*

This film deals with transportation problems in a modern city: the distribution of residential and business sections, the daily flow of people, traffic systems, and police regulations.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.50)
Purchase: General Films, Regina, Sask.

A Capital Plan: *National Film Board. 11 mins. Colour (1949)*

Tourists, diplomats, trade experts, walk in the shadow of the Peace Tower, see the historic Rideau Canal and the swimming and skiing facilities close to Ottawa's centre. But they see also the cluttered buildings, the traffic bottlenecks, the smoke from the cross-town tracks. To make Ottawa a city fit to be Canada's capital Jacques Greber, noted town planner, has laid out "a capital plan."
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.50)

Cities: Why They Grow: *Coronet, 10 mins, B & W.*

Good elementary background to the economics of city development and decline. Shows how the balance of trade is important to the city as it is to the nation. Outlines the function of various groups to the well being of the city as a whole.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.00)

Growth of Cities: *Encyclopaedia Brittanica Films 10 mins. B & W. (1942)*

This film explains factors which determine the growth and location of cities. Shows the general trend towards organization throughout the United States and presents a good case for decentralization.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.00)
Purchase: General Films, Regina, Sask.

Houses in the Town: *Crown Film Unit. 20 mins. B & W (1951)*

Based in part on the problems of lay-out and grouping of various forms of housing development as dealt with in the Housing Manual 1949. Opening sequences of the film show the different kinds of buildings now being provided throughout Great Britain and stress the importance of getting away from the drabness of long streets of similar houses and the grim and barrack-like monotony of closely spaced blocks of flats that were so typical of inter-war housing developments. Subsequent sequences show how better arrangements are possible. Models and views of a completed scheme demonstrate how character with compactness, variety of outline and appearance with varying accommodation, have been achieved by reintroducing the square and by combining flats with houses and bungalows. Prof. W. Holford of London University, Frederick Gibberd, Architect and Planner, and Mr. Robert Matthew, Architect to the London County Council, appear personally to provide a verbal explanation. Shots of the Lansbury neighbourhood 'live architecture' exhibit for the Festival of Britain, indicate how the ideas are being carried out on the ground.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($2.00)

Life Stream of the City: *General Electric Corporation Films. 15 mins. Colour.*

Lucid exposition of the problems of swelling traffic in our streets and solutions offered by modern public vehicles.
Available: Loan on application to nearest office of Canadian General Electric Ltd. for payment of express charges.

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
NATIONAL OFFICE
309 Somerset St. West, Ottawa

New Town: *British Ministry of Information, 14 mins. Colour.*

A colour cartoon explaining in lively fashion the purposes of the British New Towns Act of 1946, under which fifteen towns are now being planned and built to relieve the crowding of older cities.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.50)

Planned Town: *J. Arthur Rank Production, 11 mins. B & W.*

Using Welwyn Garden City as an example, the film explains the need for and purpose of town planning. The inconvenient, inefficient, anti-social housing of old industrial towns is shown as a prelude to the unfolding, by means of animated diagram, of the master plan for a city where decent housing would be a major consideration. The actual scenes of Welwyn Garden City show the realization of the plan — properly zoned factory and housing areas, well laid out streets and open spaces, shopping centres, and so on. By taking thought, a town can be built so that it is fit both to live in and work in.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.00)

Planning Canada's National Capital: *National Film Board 21 mins. B & W (1949)*

Ottawa it is — city grown at random — and Ottawa as it can be, according to town planners' design. Quaint old prints show Ottawa's growth on its magnificent site unique among world capitals — but a site now marred by smoky railway lines, depressed areas, crowding factories and buildings that block the view of the stately Peace Tower and cut Ottawans off from much of the enjoyment of their main river. Maps and animation show the new Ottawa, planned by the experts (and constructed in model) with its wide highways and green spaces, all surrounded by the parkland of the National Capital District. The plans are made — now Canadians must build to the plans, making Ottawa a true symbol of the Nation's achievements.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($2.00)

The City: *American Documentary Films Inc. 33 mins. B & W (1939)*

Shows what made a New England village of the last century pleasant, and how industry and urban growth ruined residential areas and brought slums and disease. It then demonstrates how modern communities may have both efficient industry and humane development. Commentary is by Lewis Mumford, music by Aaron Copland. An outstanding film which is highly recommended.
Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($4.50)

The Way We Live: *J. Arthur Rank Production. 63 mins. B & W (1947)*

An account of the plans for rebuilding Plymouth after the Blitz and the reactions of her citizens to the plan. The film presents its case from two different points of view — that of a journalist in search of material on "town planning" and that of an average Plymouth family in search of a decent home. An analysis of the city's problems is given — lack of housing, traffic difficulties, sprawling suburbs and lack of recreational facilities. Meetings of the City Council and other organizations are shown, in which the pros and cons of reconstruction methods are dealt with.
Available: Rental: J. Arthur Rank Ltd., Toronto.

The Proud City: *U.K. Information Office, 26 mins. B & W (1945).*

This film presents a detailed description of the London County Council's plan to rebuild the capital city of Great Britain. By means of well executed maps, models and drawings, we are shown the transformation of one of the worst slum areas into a beautiful, healthy and efficient community.

Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($3.00)

This is Tomorrow: *Civic Films 10 mins. B & W (1938 — Revised 1947)*

A short version of "The City". Contrasts the unplanned metropolis, with its by-products of slums and unnatural speed-up of daily routine, and the new decentralized community, planned for peace and segregation of work and recreation. Not as effective as "The City" but well worth seeing.

Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.00)

Town and Country Planning: *Bureau of Current Affairs 10 mins. B & W.*

Produced for the British Army Bureau of Current Affairs, this film stresses the fact that while volume of housing is important, we must not lose sight of the value of good layout and quality.

Available: Rental: C.F.I. ($1.00)

NOTE: For information about these and other films, readers are asked to communicate with the CPAC National Office. Advice may also be obtained through regional offices of the National Film Board, the Canadian Film Institute, universities, libraries and local film councils. New planning films will be listed in the *Newsletter* as they become available.

Filmstrips

from National Office

The following filmstrips are available on loan to Branches or other non-profit groups. They will be shipped with accompanying notes. Every effort will be made to satisfy requests, which should be sent as much in advance of the proposed showing as possible and with full addressing information. The filmstrips weigh only a few ounces. Filmstrips and notes should be returned in good condition, prepaid to CPAC National Office, 309 Somerset St. West, Ottawa.

Planning our Cities Prepared for Detroit high schools in 1948, to show why planning is necessary and what purposes it serves. Stresses the re-forming of a large city into neighbourhoods.

City Planning Intended primarily for high school use. Shows some of the important buildings in various American and foreign cities and the accompanying notes use such illustration to ask questions. For instance under the title *adaptation to geographic site* we are shown a view of Brazil's Rio de Janeiro. The text reads — "Here is an illustration of the need of adapting a city plan to three important geographic features: surrounding hills, water front and plains. Explain why a city plan should be adapted to the geographic site of the community."

Your City and You A filmstrip version of the Argo display which shows the elements needed to reconstitute a neighbourhood in a logical pattern. Text is not clearly visible and a spoken explanation is advised. 25 frames with pamphlet commentary in English or French.

The Need for Planning How the Industrial Revolution knocked urban development out of control. (British)

Investigating Towns I The survey of present land use, what it means in human living conditions and how they got that way. (British)

Investigating Towns II Industrial basis of the town: its effect upon location, its support of labour force and their needed services and facilities. (British)

How To Look at a Town What accounts for the shape and character of the cathedral and market town of Ely, England. (British)

How to Look at a Village The types of English village, their problems and attractions. (British)

How to Look at a Seaport Industry, trade and recreation in Falmouth, England; glances at larger British seaports. (British)

Filmstrips, slides and other material for use at meetings may be obtained from the collections in local and provincial public libraries and colleges. In addition, the educational departments of several of the civic art galleries, of provincial museums, and of the National Gallery of Canada may possess lantern slides illustrating particular cities or groups of buildings that you can use to illustrate an opportunity in your own community. Items from these lantern slides and print collections are usually made available to responsible non-profit educational or study groups for a nominal charge. Inquire of the nearest library, museum or art gallery regarding such facilities, detailing as completely as possible your problem of illustration and the purpose of your group.

City Within a City Prepared by the American Council on Education. Deals with a well developed residential area for middle class families in a large city, (not to be confused with a motion picture of the same name) 41 single frame pictures with lecture notes.

Available from the American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington 6, D.C.

Slum Rehabilitation — The Baltimore Story Describes activity in Baltimore to improve slum housing by the enforcement of health and safety laws. 54 frame filmstrip with sound, running time of 15 minutes.

Available from National Association of House Builders, 1028 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Press Digest

Victoria Scraps Underground Wiring Scheme

A long-cherished plan of City Council has been scrapped when it was learned that the job of putting all overhead wiring underground would cost too much. E. W. Arnott, vice-president of B.C. Electric, estimated the cost of the reconversion at between $12 and $14 millions.

Buttle Lake Dam Project Arouses Opposition

The B.C. Power Commission's plan to erect a dam at the head of Buttle Lake has brought a flood of protests at a public hearing in Victoria. Former federal cabinet minister H. H. Stevens said that the construction of the dam would "establish a precedent of desecration of great park areas throughout B.C." Fred M. Packard, executive secretary of the National Parks Association, who came all the way from Washington, D.C. to testify, said that "We (in the U.S.A.) have learned from bitter experience that conversion of natural resources into commercial products or industries is detrimental to our national interest."

Power Commission spokesmen claim that they need the increased horsepower available through the proposed scheme and say that alternative sites would be too costly because of compensation payments to land owners affected.

Propose False Creek Slums be Cleared

The Vancouver Housing Association wants Vancouver's False Creek area to be re-zoned from light industrial to residential to pave the way for a slum clearance plan drafted by Dr. Leonard Marsh, University of British Columbia sociologist. The city's Industrial Development Commission is opposing the re-zoning application on the grounds that it would "rob the city of an already meagre supply of industrial land."

But Kitsilano's Chamber of Commerce is also aroused. President Art Nursey visited the area and stated afterwards that a clean up was needed. There is talk of a meeting in the Fall at which Dr. Marsh would be asked to speak.

Low Rental Housing Off?

The Little Mountain low rental housing scheme for Vancouver may be abandoned, according to the Vancouver *Sun*. Soaring costs make it impossible to build houses within the reach of those for whom it was intended.

Last month, the Vancouver members of CPAC held a joint meeting with the City's Housing Association, to hear Donald Fleming, M.P., on the status of the local housing projects. He said the use of present federal-provincial legislation to clear slums and build low rent housing was impossibly cumbersome, and that there was real danger of high costs and round-about procedures proving so discouraging as to bring hopeful overtures to a halt.

Implementing Planning Measures

Town Planner Noel Dant told Edmonton's Rotary Club that planning proposals will not be carried out effectively "unless planning is accepted as an important and integral part of local government administration".

"The acceptability of planning proposals," said Mr. Dant, "must be fought out in the political arena along with all other proposals for government action. If they cannot stand the test of politics, they have no place in democratic government."

Proper implementation of a municipal plan calls for a permanent paid planning staff so that the planning point of view may be presented to City Council as vigorously as that of any other civic department or business association. And, he continued, "the city fathers must learn to think of planning as their responsibility, and the planning staff as their specialized assistants".

Revenue-Earning Buildings Favoured in City Centre Area

The city centre committee of Edmonton's City Council has recommended that the city centre area be open for commercial buildings. In so doing the committee emphasized that it would not be inviting construction of buildings on single lots, but the development of a large portion of the city centre area as a single architectural unit.

Town Planner Dant had urged that the city centre, which is located in a district of high values, be used for revenue-bearing buildings with a development of open green and parkland to the southeast of the area, extending into the river valley. A portion of the area will be reserved to the city for unforeseen needs if City Council accepts the committee's report.

City Surveys Underway

Edmonton's Town Planning Department expects to conduct up to 40 surveys of various aspects of the city in order to assist in compiling a Master Plan. The first of these, a land use survey, has been started and it is hoped that an industrial survey will be conducted with the co-operation of the Edmonton District Planning Commission.

Housing Plebiscites in Saskatchewan

Municipal participation with federal and provincial governments in low rent housing was put to the voters of Saskatoon and Moose Jaw during the summer. In the latter city the proposal carried. The mayor of Saskatoon roundly opposed the scheme for his city, and four out of five electors voted against it.

Prairie cities are dissatisfied with the tiny share of defence contracts being let outside the central provinces. American techniques for promoting industrial dispersal are quoted, and a Calgary audience cheered when Col. F. J. Lyle of the Ontario Department of Planning and Development told them: "Top management is looking to smaller towns. . . . The basic sanity of the Canadian workman is the other factor that is giving the edge to the smaller cities." The same city was happy to learn of an agreement with the provincial and federal governments for construction of 174 apartment dwellings; a mixture of house types has been abandoned in favour of a more repetitive scheme. A referendum of the ratepayers will not be required.

Planning District to give Regina Fringe Control

A special committee meeting of Regina's City Council has approved the setting up of a Regina planning district aimed at giving the city some control over growth beyond the city boundaries. The planning district is expected to include some 28½ square miles of territory.

Under a statute passed at the last session of the Saskatchewan legislature, a five-man district planning committee will be set up

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

President: W. Harold Clark (Toronto)
Executive Director: Alan H. Armstrong
Assistant Director: J. Ross Robertson

NATIONAL OFFICE:
309 Somerset St. West, Ottawa

DIVISIONAL OFFICES:

Nova Scotia.....c/o City Engineer, City Hall, Halifax
Quebec.....14 St. James Street East, Montreal
187 St. Joseph Street, Quebec
Ontario.....1175 Bay Street, Toronto
Manitoba.....223 Curry Building, Winnipeg
Alberta.....640 Tenth St. N.W., Calgary
British Columbia.1205 - 736 Granville Street, Vancouver

The object of the Association is to encourage citizen interest in community planning. Active membership is $3.00 per year. Sustaining membership is $25.00 per year. Members receive the *CPAC Newsletter* or *Les Nouvelles de l'A.C.U.* each published eight times yearly, and the bilingual quarterly *Community Planning Review*. Members are encouraged to become active supporters of community planning in their community. Branches have been formed in several cities for this purpose.

to advise both the City of Regina and Sherwood rural municipality on "all matters pertaining to community planning within the planning district". In addition the committee may—with the sanction of complementary by-laws passed by Sherwood and Regina—prepare a zoning by-law for the planning district.

Demand for Off-Street Parking Grows

Both the Winnipeg *Tribune* and *Free Press* are demanding that City Council follow up recommendations contained in a report on off-street parking prepared by city traffic engineer E. F. Gillies. Says the *Free Press:* "Data (collected by Mr. Gillies) confirm a fact often stated here. The welfare of business in the core of a city, and preservation by the city of its best tax area—the downtown business section—are directly tied to the adoption of a practical plan for off-street parking. If congestion becomes too great in this area, and parking space too limited, many people stop buying downtown. Business firms then start moving to outlying areas, and the central section goes into decline." The papers point out that action can't be deferred much longer if the city hopes to get hold of suitable properties.

Winnipeg received authority from the provincial legislature to acquire and operate off-street parking lots, or engage individuals or companies to operate lots for the city. Originally it was intended that profits from parking meters be used to buy land for off-street parking lots but to date the money has been going into general revenues and the City has made no attempt to exercise the authority which it sought from provincial officials.

Section 35 Housing in Ontario

Some 15 cities are said to have applied to the provincial government for low rental housing under legislation passed in the last two years. Windsor is to get 325 units, and nearby Sarnia has likewise applied. The Province is absorbing nearly half the nation's stream of immigrants, while higher credit hurdles have slowed house-building for sale; mounting demand in the low and moderate rental fields is inevitable. Ottawa's acting Mayor has suggested building on scattered vacant lots for the purpose. Owen Sound is inspecting the first of its less-than-$30-a-month units for older citizens, built with a 90% loan from the federal government. Toronto is still stalled in its urge to merge municipalities in the metropolitan area; its Regent Park slum clearance project lately produced the first television switch-hunt of the kind by now familiar in the U.S.

Graduate Courses in Planning at Four Universities

This month planning studies will be resumed at McGill University, and the Universities of Manitoba and British Columbia. The Manitoba course is open to graduate architects and engineers, the other two to a wider range of graduates. In addition, an informal course will be instituted at the University of Toronto, open to graduates in social studies or physical design. Nine fellowships have been awarded by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to candidates in these four courses. That at Toronto will be under the direction of Jaqueline Tyrwhitt; she was former Director of the School of the Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction in London, was general editor of the *Town and Country Planning Textbook*, and compiler of the town planning section of the 1951 Festival of Britain exhibition at Lansbury.

Less Housing Now Must Mean More Later

Statistics of dwellings begun and completed in July and August show the serious inroads made into Canada's rate of house production by the withdrawal of credit and diversion of materials during 1951. The figures give added point to observations made by Dr. O. J. Firestone, economic adviser to Central Mortgage & Housing Corporation and the federal Department of Trade and Commerce. Speaking in Toronto to the local chapter of the American Marketing Association in September, he said in part: "The Canadian people and their government are torn between the necessity to make a larger contribution to military security than ever before in peacetime, the need to hold down inflation, and the desire to build more houses. It is difficult to say whether the housing program and how much of it has to be sacrificed to give priority to the two first mentioned considerations. There will be some who may say that we should not cut housing at all but that any reduction that may be necessary should take place in other fields, e.g., commercial, service and low priority industrial sectors. They may also point to the small demand that housing makes on essential defence materials (for example, less than 3 per cent of Canadian steel and aluminum consumption and probably not more than 5 per cent of copper consumption).

"But whatever decision Parliament and the Government will be making in respect to public pressure for more housing, one point is fairly clear: the supply of housing over the next two or three years in which we are creating an industrial defence structure will not keep pace with general economic expansion. We may therefore be facing by 1955 a situation similar to that existing in 1945, with backlog requirements larger than ever before and we have further expansion ahead of us. Thus we may find that at that time it will not be enough to build the close to 100,000 units per year—our accomplishment between 1949 and 1951—but an even larger number. Perhaps between 115,000 and 130,000 units per annum will then be necessary."

Gréber begins plans for Gatineau Park

Jacques Gréber, author of the National Capital Plan, has returned to Ottawa from France and is now working on plans for the Gatineau Park Area near the capital. The Federal District Commission now owns 32,000 acres in Gatineau Park and Mr. Gréber thinks that this should be boosted to 80,000 acres. He expects the Park Plan to be similar to that of magnificent Blue Ridge Park in Virginia which was accomplished by the American government in the 1930's.

Capital Plan well received

Mr. Gréber was enthusiastic about the reception accorded to the National Capital Plan. He paid tribute to the work of his assistants, Edouard Fiset and John M. Kitchen. The latter will be charged with the day by day responsibilities involved in implementing the Plan.

How to attract desirable industry

Speaking before a gathering of Quebec businessmen and civic officials, Mayor Horace Boivin of Granby said that Quebec cities must sell themselves as sites for new industry if they wish to get their share of such industries. Mayor Boivin told his audience how Granby had been successful in attracting several foreign firms. Said the mayor: "Don't attract these new firms with tax exemptions. Granby has never granted such concessions. However, give them the land free—not the city but farsighted businessmen—and have the prospective industrial sites all ready for occupancy. We have about 15 such sites ready in Granby." Mayor Boivin also urged the opening and maintenance of public parks. (Granby has 18 parks and a zoo.) This, he said, will attract workers for these new concerns. Once the park is opened, keep it that way, stated Mayor Boivin. "Never make any concessions for occupancy either for industrial or residential purposes."

Planning Leadership in the Maritimes

National headlines were given last month to the resolution by the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada demanding increased slum clearance and low rental housing. The Congress met in Halifax where an agreement had just been signed for 200 low rental units under Section 35 of the National Housing Act. The same city is the scene of many hundred dwellings going up for married personnel in the armed services. In both Halifax and St. John's, Newfoundland, the new housing and industrial projects are marching forward along the lines of comprehensive plans. Expansion of the Nova Scotian capital has compelled multi-million dollar commitments for trunk road and bridge improvements; they are said to be looking for a traffic engineer.

New National Park

One of the earliest direct outcomes of the Massey Commission's work will be the transfer of the historic Halifax Citadel from the Department of National Defence to the Department of Resources and Development for administration as a National Park. When the transfer is complete, it is believed that the Historic Sites and Monuments Board will take care of the Old Town Clock—a fine Classic timber structure, built in 1803.

Credit Curb Eased on U.S. Housing

An easing of government credit curbs on houses selling at less than $12,000 was signed into law during early September by President Truman. The new law easing down payments and pay-off regulations also is designed to encourage new houses for defence workers and for families of servicemen.

Press Digest

Easier credit restrictions voted by congress do not affect homes costing more than $12,000 but the president is authorized to order a relaxation in defence areas if he deems it necessary. He may suspend credit curbs entirely on lower priced homes.

Critical Need to be met

The new law allows 25 years to pay off the balance on housing selling for up to $12,000. Under the old law the maximum maturity was 20 years for housing priced at more than $7,000. The government may now spend up to $50 millions to meet critical housing needs in defence areas if private industry fails to start the needed homes within 90 days.

U.S. Government to promote Industrial Dispersal

A Washington news item says that the United States government has decided to use its power to see that the country's industrial power is spread over wider areas. The core of the policy announced by the National Security Resources Board is that there will be plenty of inducement held out to industrialists who are willing to build new plants in places unlikely to be major target areas in case of war. This can and apparently will be promoted through preference in defence contracts, allocation of strategic raw materials and the right to pay less in income taxes by writing off their factories over a period of five years instead of 20 or 25 years. The program will also include an effort to get local businessmen and city and state officials in each area interested in handling the problem themselves with a minimum of government intervention.

In Canada, the government apparently does not intend actively to encourage dispersal. Reasons given include: Canada has few areas likely to be military targets; the government doesn't want to establish industry in a town to find that it would be unable to hold a competitive position in 'normal' times, and it is easier to use existing facilities and labour forces to full capacity.

Commenting on the situation the Winnipeg *Tribune* says: "Centralization has intensified the housing problems of the industrial cities and towns in Eastern Canada; has tended to drain skilled labour from other parts of the Dominion, and has caused lack of balance in the national economy". It urges that wherever possible, we should space out our industrial plants and give more defence orders to the non-central provinces.

Harvard Scholarship in Landscape Architecture

The Department of Landscape Architecture, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, offers to those eligible for admission as regular students a scholarship for the next academic year with an income of six hundred dollars ($600.00), equal to the tuition fee.

Candidates must have received their Bachelor's degree, or equivalent, within the past four years; students who are candidates for the degree in June 1952 are also eligible.

The Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of scholastic standing and evidence of interest in the field of landscape architecture. The Department reserves the right to make no award if such a decision is deemed advisable.

The curriculum embraces the design of areas of land for human use and enjoyment—broad scale physical planning, civic design, housing, parks and parkways. There is active collaboration with architects and with city and regional planners.

Further information will be furnished on request; all inquiries should be received before December 1, 1951, and should be addressed to: The Chairman, Department of Landscape Architecture, Robinson Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Research Assistantships Available

Several research assistantships are available at the University of North Carolina for students holding undergraduate degrees in architecture, landscape architecture or graphic arts who are interested in working toward a Master's Degree in the Department of City and Regional Planning.

The assistantships involve mapping and graphic presentation on a project for a Defense Agency. Two types of assistantships are offered: (1) one-third time on mapping assignment and two-thirds time on course work with a stipend of $100 per month through May 31, 1952; and (2) two-thirds time on mapping assignment and one-third time on course work with a stipend of $200 per month through May 31, 1952.

Inquiries should be addressed to John A. Parker, Chairman, Department of City and Regional Planning, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The closing date for receipt of applications will be *November 1, 1951.*

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